S. Amer. Brazil

AMERICAN CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The Mission in Brazil.

ADVENT, 1901.

Church of the Saviour, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil.

CHURCH MISSIONS HOUSE, 281 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY.

THE BRAZIL MISSION.

The story of the Brazil Mission is a brave story of strong, devoted men and of remarkable accomplishment A little more than a decade ago this Missionary enterprise had its conception in the Theological Seminary of Virginia, where always there has been evinced so much sympathy and enthusiasm in the construction of the real purpose of the Church, and the acceptance of our Lord's commission. But many difficulties had to be overcome before any beginning could be had in the undertaking; and so great were these difficulties that at times it appeared as if the project might have to be abandoned. But God was with those who had it at heart.

On May 15, 1889, the American Church Missionary Society, after long deliberation, determined to foster this work, and directly accepted the Rev. James W. Morris and the Rev. Lucien Lee Kinsolving as candidates for Missionary work to be inaugurated in Brazil. The end of the greatest difficulties had been reached. On September 1, 1889, these two young clergymen, denying themselves many flattering offers, turning aside from personal preferences, and sacrificing many things, sailed from Norfolk, Va., for the Far South. Much interest and enthusiasm had been excited in a large meeting in St. Paul's, Richmond, Va., some time before their departure, and many kind wishes and blessings were showered upon them in other places, especially in Philadelphia, another spot wherein Missionary zeal and generosity characterize the people of God's holy Church, and where similar meetings had occurred.

They first went to São Paulo, where they remained awhile, in order to acquire the Portuguese language and that experience necessary to a fair beginning of their intended work. Subsequently, they inaugurated the Missionary work of this Church in Brazil, in Porto Alegre, the capital of the State of Rio Grande do Sul, and in June, 1890, opened a chapel. The work prospered, the people responded to their Christian teachings, opportunity developed, and the tidings sent back to the home land created a new spiritual zeal and Missionary enthusiasm. A new field had been opened, a a new call was heard, and this Church looked into a larger future full of promise.

In 1891, the Rev. Wm. Cabell Brown and the Rev. John G. Meem, and Miss Mary Packard, with others, offered their lives and service for the Brazil Mission. The three were accepted, and over many difficulties, again occurring—the interference of evil will thrust itself—it was made possible for them to go. The story of their struggles—it was largely their own struggles—to overcome these new difficulties was an expression of their determination, strong and pathetic, and in it may be seen the sign of that devotion and that purpose which could not help but succeed in God's work. One instance in particular is recalled. In the early part of 1891 a meeting was held in Holy Trinity Church, Philadelphia, and an appeal

made for necessary funds. It is said that as the prospect failed to become as bright as was hoped for, the Rev. Mr Brown became absorbed in the seriousness of the threat against their purpose, and his face showed the trial he was undergoing. A gentleman noticed the expression, and correctly construing it, approached him and said, "Do not be worried, you will be sent." It was Mr. Alexander Brown, and a special check for $1,000 was subsequently found in the offering. It was Mr. Brown's, and for the sending of this Missionary. Would that it could be that now in this time of urgent need incident upon success, when we are compelled to say to those at work in that distant field, even as God's opportunity asks satisfaction, "Stop, we have no means for the development of the work," some one like this generous man might find himself called and able to follow this example, and further the Lord's own purpose in Brazil.

On September 12, 1891, these three Missionaries sailed for Brazil from Newport News, Va , arriving in due time in Rio Grande do Sul, and the Brazil Mission was established. The Convocation was organized, its officers appointed, and with fresh organic life the Mission began its promising work. From then on its story has been full of action, encouragement, and successful accomplishment The Society urged the generosity of its friends toward this work, and they met the appeal ; the men and women in the field pushed the work, and won men and women to Christ, and fixed their work in the esteem of the people. They are doing this still ; can our constituency here be kept as true and as generous, a splendid end is before the Church in Brazil.

Our Missionaries found Brazil with a picturesque life, and a civilization not without its fascinations, but with its ideals crushed, and its inspiration stifled in the long domination of neglect and shame under the Roman Church. The civilization had suffered much, and the reaction had been terrible, but it was ready for a new inspiration, and for those ideals which Christ's truth was bound to lift before them.

The work spread and grew. In Rio Grande as in Porto Alegre, in Pelotas, in Contracto, in Viamão, Sao José do Norte, Jaguarão and in other places chapels were established or services begun and continued, and congregations won. Rapid development followed, and confirmations were had. The Bishop of West Virginia, in charge of the Mission, visited Brazil in 1893, and confirmed 142 candidates. Catechists were admitted, and presently became candidates for Holy Orders, and at this same time Bishop Peterkin ordered from among them four Deacons. Of these the Rev. Messrs. Amerigo V. Cabral, Vicente Brande and Antonio M. de Fraga are still faithfully and successfully at work. Lay Readers were also appointed, and to-day Messrs. Alfredo C. Dias, José L. Ferreira, Julio A. Coelho and Alberto D. Jarrys are notably doing their Master's service.

In 1893, there were 151 communicants in the Missions ; in 1897, the Bishop of the Falkland Islands confirmed 159 persons, and there were 319 communicants ; and in 1898 there were 336 communicants, and a number

awaiting confirmation. At this time the Mission contributed $3,000 toward its own support.

The time had now arrived when there was urgent demand for the completion of the organic life so well begun, and at the General Convention of 1898, held in the city of Washington, the House of Bishops was petitioned to elect a Bishop for the Mission. They assented, and the Rev. Lucien Lee Kinsolving, the choice of his brother Missionaries, was elected. In St. Bartholomew's Church, New York City, on the Feast of the Epiphany, 1899, he was consecrated by the Bishops of Kentucky, Albany and West Virginia, assisted by the Bishop of Texas, who preached the sermon, and the Bishops of New York, Massachusetts, and the Bishop-Coadjutor of Rhode Island. So was completed the organic Missionary structure in Brazil.

After a short time of appeal in the United States, Bishop Kinsolving returned to his field of labor, and with him the Society sent the Rev. G. W. Ribble, Deacon, and Miss Maria R. Pitts, Deaconess. New life by this notable event was thrown into the Mission, and appeals from other places in this portion of Brazil have come. As one Mission develops, another town asks the establishment of Church work in its midst.

Before October 1st, though compelled, through the long illness of the Rev. Mr. Morris, to do the local work in Porto Alegre, the Bishop confirmed 123 persons.

Two years ago in response to pathetic appeals, a certain need and the evident strategic importance of the point the Bishop felt himself compelled to establish a new Mission at Santa Maria da Bocca do Monte, and taking charge of the station in Porto Alegre himself, he sent the Rev. Mr. Morris to this new work. The wisdom of the step was soon seen, and the result has been more than was expected. For some time it was doubtful if this new Mission could be maintained, but a communicant of the Diocese of Virginia has pledged himself to the amount of $500 a year in its support, and with that it goes on toward a good future. Would that others of like generosity could be won to the assistance of this noble work of the Church. Successful from the very start, the Rev. Mr. Morris, now assisted by Mr. Julio de A. Coelho, a candidate for Holy Orders, has widened his field, and begun work in two other places, Colonia and Villa Rica, the latter the county seat of a well-to-do section, and both so situated as to reach a sturdy and substantial element of the population.

Four Churches have been built in Brazil, and toward their construction the Brazilians have contributed no little. The last to be consecrated, the Church of Our Saviour, at Rio Grande do Sul, is the pride of the city, and an exponent of the dignity and worth of this Communion and its intention which gives us like pride. Toward the building of this Church the Brazilians contributed $6,000 themselves.

The Rev. G. Wallace Ribble has been ordained Priest, making the number of Priests in the Mission now seven, of whom three are native Brazilians.

A Theological Seminary has been established at the city of Rio Grande do Sul, with the Rev. Wm. Cabell Brown, D. D., as Dean, which now has three candidates for Holy Orders. In addition to these there are two postulants. It is notable that these gentlemen together with many of the devoted supporters of the work in the various stations of the Missions are citizens who represent the best social element of their place of residence. And the good work of the Missionaries has not only given God's blessing of truth to the poor, but won to the Church many of those who stand for the integrity and refinement of society.

Little notice has been made of the lay work in this field, but from the very start the Missionaries enlisted both men and women in their work, and from that time on these gentlemen and ladies have been potent factors in the splendid accomplishment of the Church in Brazil. Conspicuous among these lay-workers have been the devoted wives of the clergy.

The Bible is now distributed, and read of the people in their own language, the Prayer Book has been translated into Portuguese, stamped with the certificate of the Custodian of the Standard Book of Common Prayer, and given to the people, and used in their worship, and a Woman's Auxiliary has been long since organized, sending its offering regularly to the United Offering of the institution. Last year the Mission contributed $5,000 toward its own support.

Really a little more than ten years has given us a Church in Brazil, small, it is true, and as yet largely dependent upon the generosity of the home land, but it is the Church, and its work stands for much, and promises much more. (See appended statistics.)

This is the very brief story of the Brazil Mission, but in it there is only a hint of that enthusiasm, sacrifice and devotion which fills it with Christian pathos, and would touch, could it be told, the sympathy and generosity of those who in the comforts and indulgence of a home among kin and friends might read it.

The future lies before it as bright as God's day, and its opportunities have opened wide the gates. At the post of duty one finds no fault, no delay, no lethargy. There all is well. But here, at the center of resources and supply, it is not so fair. The freshness of the enterprise has worn off, men and women have been enthused along other lines as well, and the time of neglect or forgetfulness is seen. But surely with a new remembrance of the work and the workers, Christ's manifest will, and the success which has already come through obedience to it, will again stir up the hearts of faithful people, and the interest here shall again be made brave and strong, and as generous as it is way yonder in the South, where our brethren labor in God's cause. Twenty thousand dollars should be had this year (1901-1902) or there shall be serious threat, it may be loss. God forefend that. God persuade some of His people to rise to the issue and bless. And the laborer shall have earned his peace.

TABLE OF STATISTICS OF THE BRAZILIAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH, FOR YEAR ENDING MAY 31st, 1901

Name of Church, or Chapel, with Locality.	Other Work in Connection Therewith.	Clergy. — Rt. Rev. Lucien Lee Kinsolving, S.T.D., Bishop, Porto Alegre.	Ordinations to Priesthood.	Deaconesses, or Acting-Deaconesses.	Candidates for Holy Orders and Postulants.	Baptisms.	Confirmations.	Communions.	Communicants.	Weddings.	Burials.	Divine Services.	Sunday School.		Parochial School.		Consecration of Churches.	Church Buildings.	Churches in Construction.	Contributions from the Field (in Milreis).
													Scholars.	Teachers.	Scholars	Teachers.				
Holy Trinity Chapel, in Porto Alegre, the Capital.	English Congregation.	Rev. Americo Vespucio Cabral.	1	Miss Packard,	..	14	10	14	108	8	3	156	100	4	..	..	..	..	1	2,661,810
		The Bishop.	..	Act.-Deac.	..	3	..	..	..	.	..	..	..		..	..	..	..	..	125,000
Grace Church, Viamão.	....	Rev. A. V. Cabral.	..	....	1 P.	5	2	4	26	..	2	25	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	209,800
Calvary Church, Santa Rito do Rio dos Sinos.	....	Rev. Antonio Machado de Fraga.	..	....	.	35	13	15	102	1	11	120	30	5	..	..	1	1	..	1,062,260
Chapel of the Saviour, Rio Grande.	English Congregation and Chapel of the Resurrection, in S. José.	Rev. William Cabell Brown, D.D. Rev. George Wallace Ribble.	..	Miss Pitts, Deaconess	2 C.	29	28	13	108	10	27	206	110	10	..	..	..	..	1	2,928,770
Chapel of the Redeemer, Pelotas.	Chapel of the Holy Spirit, in Areal.	Rev. John Gaw Meem.	..	....	1 P	27	25	23	105	3	11	201	103	8	..	..	..	..	..	5,847,500
Chapel of the Redemption, Jaguarão.	....	Rev. Vicente Brande.	..	..	..	13	10	17	24	3	6	108	45	1	50	3	..	..	..	543,370
Chapel of the Mediator, Santa Maria.	....	Rev. James Watson Morris.	..	.. .	1 C.	32	9	3	15	2	11	119	77	6	..	..	..	..	..	759,580
7	4	1 Bishop. 7 Priests.	1	2	3 C. 2 P.	158	97	89	488	27	71	935	465	34	50	3	1	2	2	14,138,090

NOTE.—14,138,090 milreis was worth on May 31st, 1901, $3,366.19 U. S. Gold.

JOHN G. MEEM,
Statistician of Mission.

BRAZIL MISSIONARIES.

THE BRAZILIAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The Rt. Rev. Lucien Lee Kinsolving, S.T.D., Bishop. (Address, Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil.)
Standing Committee—Clerical: the Rev. James W. Morris, President; Revs. John G. Meem and Americo V. Cabral. Lay: Srs. Virgilio Reis Boeira, Gervasio Moraes Sarmento, Vicente Duarte.
Secretary of the Council—Rev. John G. Meem.
Treasurer of the Council—Rev. James W. Morris.
Historiographer of the Council—Rev. John G. Meem.
Bishop's Examining Chaplains—the Rev. James W. Morris, the Rev. William Cabell Brown, D.D.

CHURCH INSTITUTIONS.

Theological School, Rio Grande—Dean, the Rev. William Cabell Brown, D.D.
The Brazilian Church Missionary Society, of which the Bishop is member, ex-officio, of the Executive Committee—President, Dr. Joao Rasmussen; Secretary, Sr. Menandro Cabral; Treasurer, Sr. Alfredo Fehn.
The Woman's Auxiliary. With branches in four parishes.
Church Paper, The Christian Standard—Editor, Rev. A. V. Cabral.

STATISTICS, 1901.

Clergy	8
Ordinations to Priesthood	1
Candidates for Holy Orders	3
Postulants	2
Deaconesses	2
Baptisms	158
Confirmed	97
Communicants	488
Communions	89
Weddings	27
Burials	71
Divine Services	935
Sunday School Teachers	34
Sunday School Scholars	465
Parish School Teachers	3
Parish School Scholars	50
Consecration of Churches	1
Church Edifices	2
Church Edifices (in construction)	2
Contributions	$3,366 19 in U. S. Gold

The Third Annual Council will meet in the Chapel of the Redeemer, Pelotas, August 2. 1901.

THE CLERGY.

The Bishop, Porto Alegre.

Parishes and Missions.	Churches and Communicants.		Clergy.
Areal	Holy Spirit		Rev. John Gaw Meem.
Jaguarão	Redemption	24	Rev. Vincente Brande.
Pelotas	Redeemer	105	Rev. John Gaw Meem.
Porto Alegre	Holy Trinity	108	Rev. Americo Vespucio Cabral.
Rio Grande	Saviour	108	Rev. William Cabell Brown, D.D.
São José	Resurrection		Rev. George Wallace Ribble.
Santa Maria	Mediator	15	Rev. James Watson Morris.
Santa Rita	Calvary	102	Rev. Antonio Machado de Fraga.
Viamão	Grace	26	Rev. Americo Vespucio Cabral.

Trinity Church, Porto Alegre.